REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	19 February 2001
Name of applicant/court:	The Film and Video Labelling Body Inc.
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Vixen Digital Ltd
Title of Publication:	Dead Man's Wish
Other Known Titles:	Private Gold 20 Dead Man's Wish (Worth Dyin' For)
Director:	Christophe Clark
Producer:	Not Stated
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Video Recording VHS/PAL
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English, French

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Dead Man's Wish	Running time:	87.03
Trailers:	Milcap Publishing Group Notice	Running time:	0.14
	Copyright Notice		0.48
	Private Notice		0.14
	Take The Chance, Be A Model! Notice		0.43
	Private Live Chat Notice		0.53
	Private Condoms Notice		0.45
		Total Running time:	90.40

Excision/Alteration: No.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Display Conditions:

Nil.

Descriptive Note:

Contains explicit sex scenes.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: 15 February 2001

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

Not Applicable.

HEADNOTE

Type of Publication:	Video Recording
Title of Publication:	Dead Man's Wish
Other known title:	Private Gold 20 Dead Man's Wish (Worth Dyin' For)
OFLC Publication Reference No:	100088
Decision:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.
Display Conditions:	Nil.
Descriptive Note:	Contains explicit sex scenes.

The publication entitled *Dead Man's Wish* is classified as objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years. This is due to the manner in which the publication treats matters of sex.

The publication is a video recording comprising the feature and six notices, and has a total running time of 90 mins 40 secs. The feature is concerned with the explicit depiction of sexual activity which is given a loose context by a storyline about a man who has one week to live. He decides to spend the week paying people to engage in sexual activity, and to film them doing so. Aside from these scenes, there are others of the man himself having sex, and of his butler having sex which appear unrelated to the theme. There are various scenes in the feature, some of which are quite short and run into other scenes, and include four men and a prostitute in Paris at night, a scene in a bar, and a scene in a night-club including pole dancers. The dialogue, which is limited in extent, is in both French and English.

The publication is concerned entirely with matters of sex. Sexual activity takes place between men and women in couples or groups of up to five. Activities depicted include fellatio, vaginal intercourse, anal intercourse and the simultaneous penetration of a woman's vagina and anus by two penises. The tone of the scenes varies with some scenes involving participants who are actively engaged with each other and appear to enjoy the activity, to scenes where participants act in a mechanical way and appear largely disinterested. However, all participants are consenting and appear relaxed in their involvement.

There are no matters to be discussed under s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993. There are matters to be discussed under s3(3)(a)(iii) and s3(3)(c), the extent and degree to which, and the manner in which the publication contains depictions of a degrading, demeaning and dehumanising nature, and the extent and degree to which, and the manner in which, the publication degrades any person. The publication does this to a moderate extent and degree. Examples of such depictions include:

- A woman licking ejaculate from a mirror.

- A woman fellating four men in the street before having them ejaculate over her face and in her mouth There is little interaction between the men and the woman, who is presented as a prostitute.

- A maid engaging in sexual activity with four men. Her involvement has been paid for by her employer, and this presents her as being sexually available by virtue of her status. The woman appears slightly uncomfortable at times as she is engaged in both anal intercourse and vaginal intercourse simultaneously while also fellating another man.

- A scene in a bar has a woman being paid to have sex with two men. The woman has vaginal intercourse with one of the men while she sits on his lap on a bar stool. The man then lifts the woman off his penis and places her on the penis of the second man who sits alongside. This happens several times, presenting the woman as an object for penetration. The woman is not herself actively involved at this point, and for much of this scene presents as being disinterested.

- A scene involving one man and two women, depicts the man engaging one woman in anal intercourse, removing his penis from her anus and immediately presenting it to the second woman to fellate. This happens several times in a methodical way, before the woman positions herself under the genitals of the other woman to enable this practice to continue. This is demeaning to both women, and presents an unsafe sexual practice.

Though these depictions are moderately degrading to participants, the effect is mitigated by the active involvement in most scenes of all participants, and the fact that the women at no time appear overtly uncomfortable with the activities they are involved in.

The dominant effect of the publication as a whole is of the explicit depiction of sexual activity presented within a loose context involving aspects of voyeurism. Due to the sustained, explicit depiction of sex intended for the sexual stimulation of adult viewers, the availability of the publication is likely to be injurious to the public good unless it is restricted to an adult audience.

OFLC Ref: 100088